

ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 20th March 1880.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
Monthly.				
1	"Bhārat Shramajīvi"	Calcutta	2,100	Pous 1286 B. S.
2	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly	175	
3	"Sansodhinī"	Chittagong	600	
Fortnightly.				
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto	12th March 1880.
5	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Rajshahye	31	
Weekly.				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Calcutta	700	9th and 16th March 1880.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	12th March 1880.
8	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensingh	671	9th ditto.
9	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta	2,000	
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Bardwān	296	16th ditto.
11	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca	350	14th ditto.
12	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	745	12th ditto.
13	"Hindu Hitaishini"	Dacca	300	13th ditto.
14	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye...	200	10th ditto.
15	"Howrah Hitakarī"	Bethar, Howrah	400	
16	"Medinī"	Midnapore	250	10th ditto.
17	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Berhampore	5th ditto.
18	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta	850	15th ditto.
19	"Pratikār"	Berhampore	275	
20	"Rangpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kākinīā, Rangpore	250	11th ditto.
21	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah	500	14th ditto.
22	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	8th ditto.
23	"Samālochak"	Ditto	1,000	12th ditto.
24	"Samāchār Sār"	Allahabad	350	
25	"Sanjivani"	Mymensingh	260	8th ditto.
26	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Calcutta	4,000	13th ditto.
27	"Shārad Kaumudī"	Bhowanipore	300	
28	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet	440	8th ditto.
Tri-weekly.				
29	"Samāchār Sudhāvarshan"	Calcutta	
Daily.				
30	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	700	12th to 16th March 1880.
31	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	13th to 18th ditto.
32	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	10th and 12th to 15th March 1880.
33	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500	15th to 17th March 1880.
34	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	10th to 12th and 16th to 18th March 1880.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
Weekly.				
35	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore	487	
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
Weekly.				
36	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	13th ditto.
HINDI.				
Weekly.				
37	"Behār Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna	500	11th ditto.
38	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	500	18th ditto.
39	"Jagat Mitra"	Ditto	157	10th ditto.
PERSIAN.				
Weekly.				
40	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Ditto	250	12th ditto.

POLITICAL.

SANACHAR,
March 8th, 1880.

Now that rumour speaks of the retirement of Lord Lytton at an early date, the *Sahachar*, of the 8th March, refers to the question of appointing his successor in the Government of India. Should it be given to Lord Beaconsfield to find this successor, the selection will doubtless be mainly dictated by a regard for the interests of his party. It is nevertheless to be hoped that in performing this duty, on a proper fulfilment of which the happiness of two hundred and forty millions of people is dependent, the Premier will take into consideration the important and arduous nature of the work which the recipient of the appointment is called on to accomplish. The duties and responsibilities of the Viceregal office, its powers and privileges, are here dwelt upon. To become worthy of it one should possess in a liberal measure all the virtues of head and heart which it is possible to find combined in a single person—honesty, perseverance, patience, presence of mind, habits of industry, equanimity, experience, and many other good qualities. He must give up all pleasures and forego all self-interests. Lord William Bentinck was a successful Governor-General because, although not possessed of a good heart, he possessed many of these qualifications. So was Lord Canning famous for his equanimity. A Governor-General should further be gifted with originality, as it is absolutely necessary that he should be able to initiate lines of policy and adopt measures in accordance therewith. The selection of Lord Lytton by the Premier was hardly judicious. The former doubtless possesses many estimable qualities; but owing to his lack of patience and equanimity all these have been to no purpose. He has not that loftiness of mind which alone could enable him to act with independence. The public have no confidence in him. He came out to this country to blindly carry out the instructions of his chief, and hence the insult he flung at the members of the British Indian Association; the declaration of the Afghan War and the unjust treatment by him of Shere Ali; the holding of a costly Imperial assemblage at Delhi when Madras was passing through the agonies of a dire famine, and lastly, his difference with the Commander-in-Chief. Of the candidates mentioned in connection with the Viceroyalty, Lord Dufferin is the most fitted for this high office, and his appointment would be really beneficial. That Lord Lytton will shortly retire is indeed a piece of good news for India, but the people ask Lord Beaconsfield not to send out a second Lord Lytton as Viceroy.

**ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,**
March 9th, 1880.

2. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, of the 9th March, contains a long article on the career of Chandriah, the rebel Rumpa leader, in which the editor tries to show that Chandriah was a real hero, and that he warred not with the British Government, but with the police of Madras, the members of which had so grossly oppressed his tribesmen in Rumpa. The fault of Government was that instead of punishing the police for the wrong which they had wantonly done to these people, it espoused the cause of the oppressors, and declared war against the injured. We give below the concluding paragraph of the article :—

“If Chandriah had been decapitated in an age when men valued heroism more than self-interest, many heroes would have mourned his fate; others would have sought to adorn their houses with tufts of his hair, or regarded as holy that place which gave him birth. His doings would have been immortalized in song. As it is, we do not know whether to express joy or regret at Chandriah's death. We would not have confessed to any such doubts if the purpose for which he took up arms had been that

of subverting British rule. In that case our feeling would have been one of unmixed joy."

3. We extract the following observations from an article in the *Sulabha Samachar*, of the 13th March:—

The bravery of the Afghans.

March 13th, 1890.

The authorities would seem to be suppressing all news from Cabul in order that they might convince the British public of the courage, heroism, and success of the invading army. The whole thing however is unreal. Do the leading men in England know what defeats and insults have had to be suffered, what sums of money have been spent in order to win the tribes over, and how many European as well as native soldiers and officers have lost their lives at the hands of the enemy? This formidable war has been hitherto carried on after throwing dust into the eyes of the leading English statesmen, and the nation is praising British valour while it is being kept in the dark. There is everything in disorder in Cabul. From the reports to hand we gather that the invaders have not yet been able to do anything decisive. There has been indeed much fighting, but the leaders of the enemy, with the exception of Daoud Shah and Yakub Khan, have not yet been captured. Does not this show that in point of bravery the invaders do not find it easy to assert their superiority over the Afghans? A friend who is now present with the invading army tells us that the latter have quietly pocketed the affronts to which they were repeatedly subjected at the hands of the enemy. The casualties have not been fully reported; so that when the loss on the side of the invaders has been set down at 20, the real number of those killed was 500. They were at times so harassed that deliverance had to be purchased at a large cost. In conclusion, the writer asks Government to bring the Afghan difficulty to a speedy termination.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

4. The *Murshedabad Pratinidhi* gives the particulars of a case recently tried by the Joint-Magistrate of Berhampore, in which Mr. Reily, the District Superintendent of Police, was found to have

Mr. Reily, District Superintendent of Police, Murshedabad.

MURSHEDABAD
PRATINIDHI,
March 5th, 1890.

grossly insulted two lads of respectable parentage and wealthy connections. The circumstances were briefly as follows:—The lads in question were a few days ago riding at a somewhat rapid pace on two miserably-looking country ponies on the road lying to the east of the cantonment grounds, on the other end of which Mr. Reily was at play surrounded by a number of his attendants. The spectacle of two Bengali lads thus riding past him proved too much for Mr. Reily, who ordered two of his attendants to arrest the riders. This was soon done, and the lads brought before him. He then, addressing one of them, said:—"I have repeatedly told you not to ride over these grounds, and will you still do so?" The boy denied that he had been ever thus warned. The boys were now, under Mr. Reily's orders, marched off to the police-station, he having given instructions to his men to put them upon their trial the very next day. Arrived at the police-station they were released on bail, and the next day their case was sent up in a form. The charge on which they had been arrested was now made apparent. They had, it would seem, infringed the cantonment rules. Now Mr. Reily under the mental excitement, caused by the arrest of the two boys, had evidently forgotten that the cantonment had quite recently been removed from this place. It was therefore decided that the offending lads should be prosecuted on another charge, namely of reckless riding on a public street. The charge could not be established, and the Magistrate "warned and discharged" the boy defendants. But for what were they warned? Was not the second charge wholly a got-up one?

SAHACHAR,
March 8th, 1880.

5. A correspondent of the *Sahachar*, of the 8th March, thus writes to that journal from Darjeeling:—Now that a cry of reduction of expenditure is heard on all sides, some account of the retrenchments which are being effected in Darjeeling may not be uninteresting. Government resolved to pension off the Superintending Engineer, Mr. Smith, the same who had been deputed to construct the water-works in Simla. Mr. Smith protested against this, and urged that he was still fit for active work, and that if Government dispensed with his services without giving him notice of its intention a year previously, it must pay him a year's salary. Government however was firm in its decision and paid him a year's salary (about Rs. 20,000), besides the pension to which he would have become entitled after the lapse of another twelve months. Now we do not know the meaning of this sort of retrenchment. Here is a man allowed a full year's salary without his having had to do any work for it, or to incur any expenses which he must have been put to if he had continued working during this period. It is again quite possible, considering the age of Mr. Smith, that Government would have been spared the necessity of paying him anything in the shape of pension or salary had he been allowed to remain in the service. Mr. Smith, however, has since secured the appointment of Consulting Engineer to the Cooch Behar State on Rs. 1,000 a month. So has another—Mr. Clark. It will thus be seen that "reduction of expenditure" in these cases only means the enriching of favourites and relations. In what an auspicious hour was the Cabul expedition undertaken! We only hope that something may be similarly done for the benefit of the native employés whose services are now being so summarily dispensed with. The writer then refers to the large expenditure incurred in the construction of the "Shrubbery" and other works in Darjeeling.

BHARAT MIHIR,
March 9th, 1880.

6. The following observations are extracted from an article in the *Bhārat Mihir*, of the 9th March:—Bengal had hitherto only spoken with regret of Sir Ashley Eden as of one who *was* once its friend. We were pained to notice the attitude of bitterness which he assumed on the occasion of the passing of Act IX of 1878; and it was our impression that the love which in the days of the indigo oppressions Sir Ashley Eden cherished for the people of this province had since been extinguished by contact with the policy which was now in the ascendant. We are now ashamed to make this confession; the little stain cast on his character has been perfectly removed. Sir Ashley Eden is once more and for all times the friend of Bengal. A perusal of the speech made by him in the Indian Council on the budget estimates shows that even in these hard times he is busy devising means for the advancement of these provinces. This speech has quite charmed us. The extension of railways in Bengal, an object on which Sir Ashley Eden has for a long time past set his heart, and for the prosecution of which he looked for contribution from the Imperial Government, has now become difficult of attainment. Sir John Strachey's financial statement has left no ground of hope. What could be more disappointing than that in spite of the surplus which will be available the prosecution of public works is to be suspended? The observations made by Sir Ashley Eden in this connection would seem to have come from the bottom of his heart. What could be more surprising than that, while Government must continue indifferent to the adoption of measures which are really necessary for the development of the internal resources of the country, the license-tax was to continue in operation—a tax which was originally imposed for the purpose of

providing the means of famine relief and the construction of public works? Government may impose or forego a tax, but it cannot regulate the outturn of food crops. In seasons of scarcity, therefore, in the absence of railway communications, there will be no means available for bringing food within the reach of the hungry. We regret that even the views of the Lieutenant-Governor have been quite ignored, and our hope of seeing railway extension in Bengal deferred to another year.

7. In another article the same paper, after dwelling upon the advantages which have resulted from the institution of the Court of Wards, proceeds to observe that the education imparted to the minors is not satisfactory. In most cases their acquirements do not reach any point beyond an ability to ride, talk English, and carry on ordinary correspondence in that language. No pains would seem to be taken to cultivate the mind. As much of what may hereafter be done to benefit the country will depend upon the wishes and aspirations of the landlords, it is exceedingly desirable that noble impulses should be imparted betimes to the minors by those who have charge of their education. Another point to which the writer would direct the attention of the authorities is the necessity of introducing an improved system of agriculture into the estates under the management of the Court of Wards. This is called for in the interests of the minors no less than for the benefit of the public.

8. The same paper observes that one of the marked characteristics of Lord Lytton's Government is that it never gives up any point which it is determined to carry out; and this in spite of any amount of opposition which it may encounter, or of the injurious consequences which such a course may bring upon the people of this country. This was clearly seen in the case of the amended License-tax Bill,—a measure which met with considerable opposition before it was passed into law. The truth is the people of India cannot expect to receive justice at the hands of the present administration. If the latter had been guided in their action by any principle of equity, they could not have continued this license-tax, or diverted its proceeds from their original purpose to meet the cost of the Afghan War. If Government had been at all actuated by motives of sincerity in the matter of taxation, it could not but have imposed a tax on salaried incomes and earnings from trades, in order that it might thus lessen the pressure on the poor. As it is, salaried incomes have been exempted simply because to have imposed a tax thereon would have touched the pockets of the rulers themselves, and raised such an outcry against the measure as to have seriously disturbed the peace of Government. The poor are powerless in this respect, and hence they must continue to pay the license-tax. The raising of the minimum limit to Rs. 500 will doubtless bring them much relief; but where is the justice of levying a tax for the general necessities of the State from only agriculturists and traders?

9. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* notices with regret that in spite of the repeated attempts made by the Anglo-Indians to bring the British Government of this country into disrepute, the latter has not yet succeeded in perceiving their true character, and consults their interests more earnestly than those of natives who have all along loyally supported its authority and actions. The Anglo-Indians as a body regard their own interests as the supreme concern of their lives, and to promote them would not hesitate to oppose Government if that became necessary. Government too has always humoured them; and affairs have now arrived at a pass when it must change this policy of humouring Europeans, if it has any

BNARAT MINIR,
March 9th, 1880.

BNARAT MINIR.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
March 9th, 1880.

expectation of ever bringing them under control. The writer then proceeds to condemn the abandonment of the Trades and Professions Bill which would have more largely affected that community.

MEDINI,
March 10th, 1880.

The Press Commissioner.

10. The *Medini*, of the 10th March, complains that the Press Commissioner does not favour him with his *communiqués*, although copies of this journal have been for some time past regularly sent to him.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
March 10th, 1880.

The Financial Statement.

11. The *Hindu Ranjiká* has doubts whether the expenditure on account of the Afghan War for the next year will not exceed the limit estimated by Sir John Strachey. The troubles in Afghanistan have not yet ended, and there is reason to fear that the surplus anticipated may not after all be realized. It is exceedingly to be regretted that while Government is willing to bear increased war charges it is going to expend less on works of public utility.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
March 10th, 1880.

The State Railways.—The treatment of native employés.

12. The *Samachar Chandriká*, of the 10th March, writes a long article on the miserable condition of native employés on the State railways in Bengal. The case is better on the guaranteed lines, where the authorities labor under a sense of responsibility to the public. The transfer of the East Indian Railway to Government is not viewed with favour. It is to be feared that the measure will result in making the officials less attentive to the comforts and convenience of the passengers than formerly, just as the transfer of the powers of the East India Company to Government has been productive of hardship on the people. On the Northern Bengal State Railway native station-masters are often subjected to trouble owing to the faults of European officers. In case of any accident, for instance, the latter find no difficulty in throwing all the blame on the shoulders of the natives, who are punished. Service on the State railways has consequently become divested of all attractions to natives. Sir Ashley Eden is asked to enquire into the truth of the frequent allegations made as to the unjust treatment of native employés by their European superiors on the State railways.

PRABHATI,
March 10th, 1880.

The South Suburban Municipality.

13. The *Prabháti* argues that it is time Government introduce the elective system into the South Suburban Municipality. The system has been a success in Serampore, which cannot after all show so many able men among its inhabitants as are to be found in Bhowanipore, Kidderpore, and adjacent localities. Under the present arrangement only such men are selected as are known to be subservient to the wishes of the authorities. The increase of salary recently given to Mr. Sterndale, the Vice-Chairman, is then commented upon. The writer wishes to know about distinguished services for which this increment has been allowed.

PRABHATI,
March 11th, 1880.

The South Suburban Municipality.

14. The same paper continues the subject in its next issue, and remarks that the Municipality of the suburbs would seem to exist only for the benefit of Mr. Sterndale, who has within the last few years had his salary repeatedly augmented till it now amounts to Rs. 1,250 a month. He made a good bargain when he disposed of his dwelling-house to the Commissioners. The income of the Municipality has increased during this period, but this result is not due to any exertions on his part. There has been an increase of wealth and population in the suburbs, and hence the improvement in the income. The writer then proceeds to refer to the number of highly paid officers, overseers, and others who are maintained by the Municipality, but who, as far as work is concerned, seem to do but little. Foul tanks and drains abound and disease prevails in the suburbs.

15. The *Purva Pratidhwani* refers to the large amount of work which the ministerial officers in a Moonsif's court are obliged to overtake. Their number has been lately reduced, while, on the other hand, work has increased. The amlah of the Revenue courts are considerably better off in this respect. Government is asked to attend to this matter.

Amlah in Moonsiffs' Courts.

PURVA PRATIDHWANI,
March 12th, 1880.

16. The raising of the minimum limit of taxable income to Rs. 500, says the *Sulabha Samachar*, is not wholly an unwelcome piece of news. For although as many are inclined to think the exemption of the trading classes and of the poor and the taxing of the well-to-do would have been a fairer course, still, under the arrangement which is now made, the latter will not wholly escape taxation, because any rise in the price of articles, such as must be inevitable when a tax is imposed on traders, cannot but touch the pockets of the community. The well-to-do therefore will have to pay the tax in an indirect form. Government again, in view of the large expenditure it is incurring, cannot hastily abandon the tax, for once given up it cannot be so easily reimposed. The limit of taxable income has therefore been raised, and it is possible that gradually the tax may be abolished.

The License-tax.

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
March 13th, 1880.

17. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 13th March, is of opinion that there should be two Mahomedan members in the Bengal Legislative Council,—one official and the other non-official. At the present moment, however, there is only one Mahomedan member in the Council, and even his term is about to expire. Moulvie Syud Amir Hossein is an able person, and his experience in the matter of the rent controversy would be of much service in connection with the Rent Bill now before the local Council. It is therefore to be desired that he should be reappointed to the Council at least for two years more. The editor would further suggest that only such men should be nominated for seats in the Council whose appointment would really benefit the public and not merely the individuals who were thus honoured.

The Mahomedan member in the
Bengal Legislative Council.

URDU GUIDE,
March 13th, 1880.

18. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 14th March, dwells on the injurious consequences of the present practice of making annual sojournings in the hills. This is a luxury which it does not behove the rulers of an empire to indulge in. There is, however, no hope that the practice will be soon discontinued. It is probable that Lord Lytton will proceed to Simla at no distant date. Unless therefore an earthquake brings about the destruction of this retreat, there is no hope of seeing the Viceroy spend the hot season in the metropolis.

Sojournings in the Hills.

DACCA PRAKASH,
March 14th, 1880.

19. The *Navavibhakar*, of the 15th March, observes that by their unsuccessful attempts to prove that India ought to be held liable for the expenses of the Afghan War, both Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey have exposed themselves to the ridicule of all thoughtful persons. The reasoning employed by the Finance Minister in this connection simply resolves itself into a statement that India ought to pay this cost, simply because Lord Beaconsfield, Lord Lytton, and the speaker are of opinion that she should pay it. Sir John has further sought to fasten a charge of disloyalty upon those who may differ from him in this matter, because as he is doubtless aware, the people of India fear above all things to be regarded as disloyal. The editor, however, will not on this account hesitate to assert that it is England which is morally bound to bear the cost of the Afghan War. Even if it were true that India was in danger of a Russian invasion, which

The cost of the Afghan War.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
March 15th, 1880.

has been rendered impossible by the war,—a supposition for which there is no justifiable ground,—it would still be the duty of England, which is so large a gainer by the possession of this Eastern dependency, to pay for the cost in question. The people of this country, even though they might be held benefited by the war, are simply unable to do so. Both Lord Lytton and Sir John Strachey, however, have extolled the resources of the country in order that they might thus find an argument favourable to their cause.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 20th March 1880.